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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

MAR 28 1995

In Reply Refer To:  
1800B3-GDG

American Family Association  
P.O. Drawer 2440  
Tupelo, Mississippi 38803

In re: NEW Jackson, Tennessee  
File No. BPED-930528MD

Dear Applicant:

This letter concerns the referenced application filed Mary 28, 1993 by American Family Association ("Family") for a new, noncommercial educational FM Station to serve Jackson, Tennessee on Channel 201A (88.1 Mhz).

Family's application includes a request for waiver of the Commission's Main Studio Rule, 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a), to permit it to operate as a satellite station of commonly-owned noncommercial, educational FM Station WARF-FM (Tupelo, Mississippi).<sup>1</sup> In order to ensure that local issues in Jackson will be met, Family has agreed to undertake the following:

- (1) Family will conduct interviews with residents and community leaders in Jackson on at least an annual basis to assess community needs and programming, and will add at least one resident of the Jackson community to its Community Advisory Board to provide recommendations on these needs and programming;
- (2) Family will maintain a toll-free telephone number for the Jackson, Tennessee area and maintain the public inspection file for the station within the community of license; and
- (3) Family will provide periodic local programming, produced at its Tupelo studio, to include coverage of significant Jackson, Tennessee local news or cultural events, and will provide for the broadcast of local public service announcements.

A "satellite station" has been defined by the Commission as one" operating on a channel specified in the ... Table of Assignments

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<sup>1</sup>Although the proposed facility is located in an adjacent state, the distance between Family's licensed Tupelo and proposed satellite facility is 93.7 miles (150.8 kilometers). Under these circumstances, the Jackson, Tennessee facility can reasonably be considered to be part of a regional network in accordance with Commission policy.

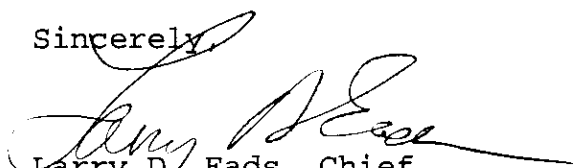
and meeting all of the technical requirements of our rules, but one which usually originates no local programming ... It rebroadcasts the programming of the parent station." Multiple Ownership Rules, 3 RR 2d 1554, 1562 (1964). Satellite stations involve deviations from such Commission regulations as the Main Studio location rule.

The Commission has stated that it recognizes "the benefits of centralized operations for noncommercial, educational stations given the limited funding available to these stations, and we have granted waivers to state and regional public television and radio networks to operate 'satellite' stations that do not necessarily meet the requirements of a main studio. These stations, however, have not been permitted to ignore local service obligations, and waivers generally have been granted only upon a showing that the local community would be served."

Memorandum Opinion and Order in MM Docket No. 86-406, 3 FCC Rcd 5024, 5027 (1988). Thus, even without a main studio within the city-grade contour, the Commission anticipates that Family will meet the local needs of the Jackson, Tennessee community.

We have determined that Family has established that its centrally programmed simultaneous schedule will serve the problems, needs and interests of Jackson, Tennessee. Accordingly, 47 C.F.R. § 73.1125(a) is HEREBY WAIVED to the extent indicated herein, and construction permit BPED-930528MD, being in all respects acceptable, IS HEREBY GRANTED. The authorization will follow under separate cover.

Sincerely,

  
Larry D. Eads, Chief  
Audio Services Division  
Mass Media Bureau

cc: Honorable Trent Lott